

NEWPORT COUNTY CONVENTION & VISITORS BUREAU

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Tuesday, June 9, 2009

12:00 PM

Held at

Glen Manor House

3 Frank Coelho Drive

Portsmouth, RI 02871

MEETING MINUTES:

The meeting was called to order at 12:05 pm by Chairman Len Panaggio.

BOARD MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE WERE:

Len Panaggio, Stephen Coyne, Laurie Stroll, William Clarke, Greg Fater, Brian Arnold, Mark Stenning, Donna Kohler, Charron Reed, Ed Silveira, Karen Oakley, Katie Wilkinson, Rocky Kempenaar, Susan Samson

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT & EXCUSED WERE:

Pieter Roos

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT & NOT EXCUSED WERE:

None

STAFF PRESENT WERE:

**Kathryn Farrington, Tim Walsh, Cathy Morrison, Deb Gatta Ellen
Crawley**

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC IN ATTENDANCE WERE:

None

Katie Wilkinson, resident manager of Glen Manor house, hosted the board meeting and gave a brief history of the property.

I. PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES:

The previous meeting minutes for May 12, 2009 were reviewed. A motion to accept the minutes was made by Bill Clarke and seconded by Mark Stenning. The motion passed unanimously.

II. TREASURER'S REPORT:

The financial report for May, 2009 was read by Mark Stenning. City Bed Tax for March, 2009 was down 22.65% and Regional Bed Tax was down 6.46 % for a combined YTD bed tax of -18.39%. Mark reviewed the revenues and receivables for the month of May, 2009. A motion to accept the treasurer's report for the month of May was made by Len Panaggio and seconded by Karen Oakley. The motion passed unanimously.

III. PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

Evan Smith, President/CEO reported on the following:

- Evan commented on the Treasurer's Report figures being down and**

that it was anticipated and planned for no with budget adjustments at this time. Mid to late July will be the timeline if adjustments are needed. Discussion followed.

- Day visitation for Newport up considerably with some visitor's staying overnight at the last minute.
- The status of the Bristol: a number of legislators wanted to see the approval from Bristol County. Letters informing the council members of the requested merger were sent to the townships of Bristol, Barrington and Warren.
- Evan & Cathy Morrison attended a council meeting in Bristol and the town council approved the motion unanimously. Warren and Barrington have not responded.
- A request to the Governance Committee to help complete this merger was made by Evan. Discussion followed. Greg made a suggestion for the possibility of a special board meeting to complete possible board restructuring.

IV. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Stephen Coyne, representing the Facilities Committee reported on the following:

- The committee was looking into the electric bill and the possibility of the City of Newport being responsible for this expense rather than the NCCVB.
- Concern with the company running the parking lots located behind the CVB as well as the lot on Mary Street. Stephen stated that if anyone had any complaints to please let him know. Discussion

followed.

- **Brian Arnold has offered to replicate the kiosks currently in the Gateway Information Center for additional Newport County Merchants to display their merchandise.**
- **Greg addressed, to Stephen Coyne the policy of Gulls visitors parking in the lot behind the CVB and the fact that patrons are now charged \$2 (with ticket stub) under the current city administration and that past administrations have allowed free parking. Discussion followed.**
- **Len Panaggio suggests that the Finance Committee meet some time in July.**

V. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- **Evan Smith brought up the fact that RIPTA has removed the beach shuttle route. RIPTA will be contacting Middletown hotels to seek support for the shuttle route with a contribution.**
- **Evan announced that the newly renovated Stone House in Little Compton will open on July 1, 2009.**

VI. NEW BUSINESS:

- **Len Panaggio asked if anyone does not want to be considered to be a board member. Discussion followed.**
- **Letters will be sent out to the townships for their appointees to the NCCVB board of directors. It was recommended decisions be made by early August for appointment in September, 2009. Discussion followed.**

VII. ADJOURNMENT:

A motion to adjourn was made by Len Panaggio and seconded by Mark Stenning. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 1:15 pm.

The next NCCVB board meeting will be held on Tuesday, August 11, 2009

**At the Gateway Information Center, 3rd floor meeting room
THERE WILL BE NO MEETING FOR THE MONTH OF JULY**